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## Fr. Fred Enman Receives Madonna Della Strada Award for Work with Matthew 25

2013 NEWS ARCHIVE

04/26/13

Newton, MA -- Boston College Law School is pleased to announce that the New England region of the Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC) presented its highest honor on April 21 to Fr. Fred Enman, SJ, Chaplain and Special Assistant to the Associate Dean for Student Services at BC Law. Fr. Enman founded and currently serves as executive director of Matthew 25, a non-profit organization that rehabilitates abandoned houses in Worcester and Boston, creating affordable rental housing for low-income people.

The Madonna Della Strada Award, which recognizes those who embody the Jesuit tradition of direct service to the poor and of working and educating for a more just society, is named after Sancta Maria Della Strada, the first church where Saint Ignatius, the founder of the Society of Jesus, and his early Jesuits based their ministry to serve the urban poor in Rome in the sixteenth century.

The Della Strada honorees also included Sister Nancy Braceland CSJ, co-founder and executive director of Casserly House, a neighborhood community center in Roslindale that offers adult education classes and after-school programs and lifelong activists for social and economic justice, Henry and Carol Shelton of Rhode Island.

IVC provides men and women in midlife the opportunity to contribute their talents, wisdom, and professional experience in staff level positions at non-profit agencies that work with people who are materially poor or advocate for a more just society. Typically, volunteers are aged 50 and over and commit to their placements two days a week for a ten-month period.

In addition, the volunteers participate in a monthly Jesuit spiritual reflection program guided by trained ordained and lay spiritual reflectors. This unique feature of IVC deepens the volunteers' commitment to their service and faith.

IVC was founded in 1995 by Father Jim Conroy, SJ currently the director of the Boston-based Jesuit Collaborative - whose mission is the make Ignatian spirituality more available to people - and the late Father Charlie Costello, SJ in response to the desire of older Catholics for avenues to minister to the poor with a spirituality in accordance with the vision of the Second Vatican Council.

Based in Baltimore, IVC nationally consists of 17 regions throughout the United States. IVC New England is in its fourth year of operation in Worcester, Boston and Providence and surrounding communities.

For more information on the awards ceremony, honorees, the work of the IVC and its combination of direct service to the economically poor and its structured spiritual reflection program, please visit [www.ivc.org](http://www.ivc.org).

